

U.S. Migratory Bird Joint Ventures

IMPLEMENTING AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOOR INITIATIVE



What is a Joint Venture?

A Joint Venture (JV) is a collaborative, regional partnership of government agencies, non-profit organizations, corporations, tribes, and individuals that conserves habitat for priority bird species, other wildlife, and people.

Joint Ventures bring these diverse partners together under the guidance of national and international bird conservation plans to design and implement landscape-scale conservation efforts.



Conservation in Action

Joint Ventures have been widely accepted as the model for collaborative conservation in the 21st century. They use state of the art science to ensure that a diversity of habitats is available to sustain migratory bird populations for the benefit of those species, other wildlife, and the public. JV actions include:

- ✦ biological planning, conservation design, and prioritization;
- ✦ project development and implementation;
- ✦ monitoring, evaluation, and research;
- ✦ communications, education, and outreach; and
- ✦ funding support for projects and activities.



Partnerships That Work

Nationwide, there are 18 habitat-based JVs, each addressing the bird habitat conservation issues found within their geographic area. Additionally, three species-based Joint Ventures, all with an international scope, work to further the scientific understanding needed to effectively manage specific bird species.



JVs have a 25-year history of success in leveraging public and private resources to bring together partners and focus on regional conservation needs.

Since the program's inception in 1986, JV partnerships have invested \$5 billion to conserve 17.3 million acres of critical habitat.

Adaptive Management

Joint Ventures continuously evaluate and adjust their conservation priorities, programs, and projects to ensure that they are as effective as possible.

RESPONDING TO CRISIS

Gulf Coast Joint Venture (GCJV)

GCJV partners developed proactive short-term strategies to deal with anticipated impacts to migratory birds resulting from the Gulf's Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Models developed by the GCJV helped determine habitat needs for migrating waterfowl and shorebirds, which allowed partners to work quickly to enhance the most appropriate shallow wetlands and provide alternative habitat for birds impacted by the oil spill.



Ed Schneider

Chihuahuan Desert grasslands are critical for birds, including Grasshopper Sparrow.

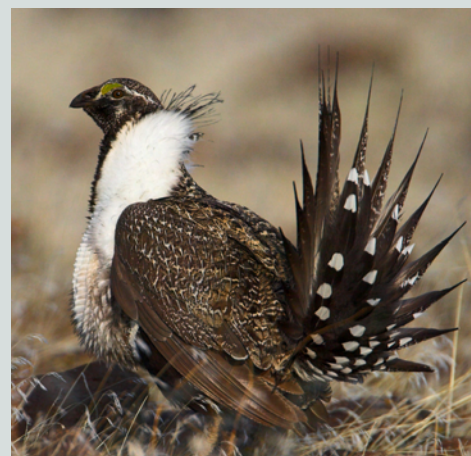


William Majoros

Ducks like Northern Pintail benefit from the GCJV's habitat enhancement work.

Species Recovery

Joint Ventures work closely with partners to support the recovery of bird populations and species of greatest concern.



USFWS

Greater Sage-Grouse benefit from habitat management activities such as prescribed grazing.

DECISION MAKING

Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture (AMJV)

Energy development is expected to fragment many of the remaining high quality, large blocks of forest over the next few decades. To understand the cumulative effects of land-use change on the region's forests for populations of forest-interior bird species, AMJV partners completed an energy development model for Pennsylvania and are helping to secure funding to assess potential impacts across the entire region.



Ohio DNR

Energy development affects connectivity of Appalachian forests and impacts critical habitat for birds such as Cerulean Warbler.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Arctic Goose Joint Venture (AGJV) and Sea Duck Joint Venture (SDJV)

The AGJV, SDJV, and Flyway Councils are conducting aerial surveys in the Canadian high Arctic to evaluate the distribution and abundance of waterfowl and waterbird species. These surveys will improve management efforts and monitor changes in breeding populations in relation to climate change, which has warmed Arctic habitats at twice the rate of more southerly ecosystems.



AGJV

Waterfowl such as Canada Goose breed in the Arctic and will face impacts from climate change.

Intermountain West Joint Venture (IWJV)

The IWJV is working to restore Sage-Grouse habitat and foster sustainable ranching at the landscape scale in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Sage-Grouse Initiative. The IWJV and its partners provided funding for range conservationists and biologists to work with ranchers in key locations. Together they designed management practices such as prescribed grazing and juniper removal, helping NRCS strategically target a portion of the \$18.5 million devoted last year to habitat improvement on over 750,000 acres of sagebrush habitat.

Partnerships

By bringing together diverse partners, Joint Ventures accomplish together what would be difficult or impossible for any single group to achieve alone.

Sonoran Joint Venture (SJV) and Rio Grande Joint Venture (RGJV)

A diverse group of partners, including the SJV and RGJV, is collaborating to support the creation of an eight-state eco-regional partnership with the mission of conserving the Chihuahuan desert grasslands of northern Mexico. Conservation of this highly threatened ecosystem will have far-reaching, positive impacts on migratory birds in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Education and Outreach

Joint Ventures identify audiences that are critical for conservation success and develop the most appropriate tools and messages to reach them.

Playa Lakes Joint Venture (PLJV)

A \$10,000 grant from the PLJV helped an outreach partner in Texas educate local communities about the value of playa lakes (seasonal wetlands found throughout the Southern High Plains). This outreach resulted in three playas in the Texas Panhandle being enrolled in conservation programs, with more expected in 2011. These playas provide habitat for more than 200 species of birds and other wildlife, as well as recharge for the Ogallala Aquifer.



Ogallala Commons

Playa Management Field Day, Ogallala Commons Playa Classroom in Nazareth, Texas.

Habitat Conservation

By prioritizing habitats for conservation, Joint Ventures guide efforts to protect, restore, and enhance areas most critical to bird populations.

San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (SFBJV)

SFBJV partners are restoring former salt ponds to a mix of managed ponds and natural tidal wetlands that support populations of fish and wildlife, including migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Cumulatively, these efforts are integrating nearly 70,000 acres of protected and restored areas with remnant historic tidal marsh around the San Francisco Bay.



Jeff Nadler

Each year hundreds of thousands of shorebirds migrate through the South Bay salt ponds in San Francisco.

Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV)

ACJV staff are working with USGS Cooperative Wildlife Research Units at four different state universities to develop a project that guides conservation for all major bird habitat types over more than 100 million acres, in four bird conservation regions and 16 states, from Maine to Florida. The tools developed will take into consideration anticipated habitat changes due to population growth, land management activities, and climate change. Ultimately, they will help direct conservation actions to the most important landscapes and priority species.



Jim Fenton

Identifying priority habitats will help the ACJV guide conservation efforts.

Pacific Coast Joint Venture (PCJV)

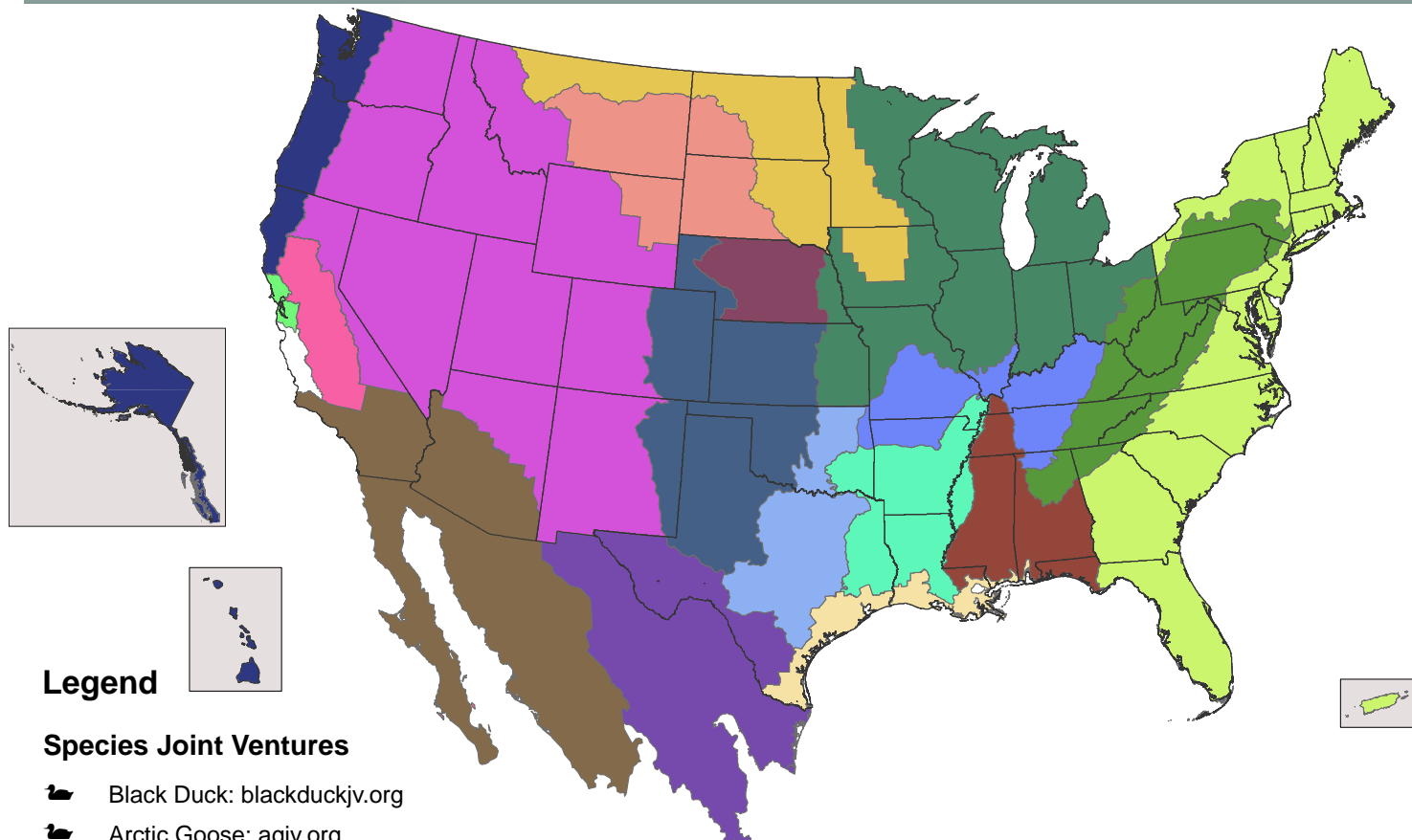
Since 1991, PCJV partners have helped the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service add more than 2,000 acres to National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) along the Oregon coast and nearly 90,000 acres to refuges in Alaska. Land acquisition projects have protected key sites for migratory birds. Estuary restoration efforts will help fish and wildlife adapt to the impacts of climate change and sea level rise on critical coastal habitats.



Roy Lowe/USFWS




Bandon Marsh NWR is a 418-acre restoration project, the largest tidal marsh restoration project in Oregon.

U.S. Joint Ventures



Legend

Species Joint Ventures

-  Black Duck: blackduckjv.org
-  Arctic Goose: agjv.org
-  Sea Duck: seaduckjv.org

Habitat Joint Ventures

-  Appalachian Mountains: amjv.org
-  Atlantic Coast: acjv.org
-  Central Hardwoods: chjv.org
-  Central Valley: cvjv.org
-  East Gulf Coastal Plain: egcpjv.org
-  Gulf Coast: gcjv.org
-  Intermountain West: iwjv.org
-  Lower Mississippi Valley: lmvjv.org
-  Northern Great Plains: fws.gov/mountain-prairie/nawm/ngpjv.htm
-  Oaks and Prairies: opjv.org
-  Pacific Coast: pcjv.org
-  Playa Lakes: pljv.org
-  Prairie Pothole: ppjv.org
-  Rainwater Basin: rwbjv.org
-  Rio Grande: rgjv.org
-  San Francisco Bay: sfbayjv.org
-  Sonoran: sonoranjv.org
-  Upper Mississippi River/Great Lakes Region: uppermississgreatlakesjv.org

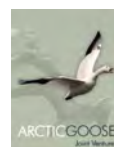


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